

Application No.: 10/613,008
Art Unit: 1734

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AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with the clean copy of the Abstract attached hereto in Appendix A.

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APPENDIX

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Carrier tapes, each carrying electronic circuitry parts at predetermined intervals on a carrier portion, are successively and continuously fed to a punching station from a tape feeding station with at least a pair of tape supply reels. While a carrier tape from a first supply reel is being fed to the punching station, a carrier tape from a second supply reel is set in a standby position. As soon as the carrier tape from the first supply reel is consumed to a last electronic part, a head end of the carrier tape from the second supply reel is spliced to a tail end of the carrier tape of the first supply reel by means of tape holder members located in the course of a tape supply route between the tape feeding station and the tape punching station, thereby make replacement of the tape supply reel quicker and easier.